

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STOCKH 04002 01 OF 02 201233Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 DHA-05 ACDA-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /109 W

-----038567 201330Z /46

R 200859Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1744

INFO AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 STOCKHOLM 4002

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, UNSC, RH, US, UK, XT, SW

SUBJECT: MUGABE INTERVIEW: TOTAL ZANU OPPOSITION TO

PROPOSED UN ZIMBABWE FORCE

1. ZANU LEADER ROBERT MUGABE IS IN THE MIDST OF A THREE-DAY VISIT TO STOCKHOLM, THE GUEST OF THE GOS AND THE SWEDISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY. AN INTERVIEW WITH MUGABE WAS PUBLISHED ON FRONT PAGE OF DAILY DAGENS NYHETER SEPTEMBER 19 UNDER THE CAPTION "TRAGEDY IF WE HAVE TO FIGHT AGAINST THE SWEDES." THE COMPLETE ARTICLE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION FOLLOWS.

2. "THE RHODESIAN NATIONALIST LEADER ROBERT MUGABE TOTALLY UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STOCKH 04002 01 OF 02 201233Z

REJECTS THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSAL TO SEND UN TROOPS TO RHODESIA. HE ALSO STRONGLY REJECTS THE SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S OFFER RECENTLY TO SEND SWEDISH TROOPS UNDER THE UN COMMAND TO RHOSDEIA. 'WE WILL ADVISE OUR SWEDISH FRIENDS TO THINK TWICE BEFORE THEY SEND TROOPS TO RHODESIA,' MUGABE SAYS TO DAGENS NYHETER. 'IT WOULD BE A TRAGEDY IF WE HAPPENED TO COME INTO CONFLICT

WITH THEM. THAT WOULD MEAN A CHANGE IN OUR RELATIONS, A CHANGE FOR THE WORSE.' ROBERT MUGABE, WHO IS SECTREARY GENERAL AND THE SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT ZANU (ZIMBABWE'S AFRICAN NATIONAL UNION) AND THEREBY ALSO FOR THE COOPERATION ORGANIZATION THE PATRIOTIC FRONT (TOGETHER WITH JOSHUA NKOMO FROM ZAPU), IS PRESENTLY VISITING SWEDEN AT THE INVITATION OF THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT. MUGABE IS ON THE WHOLE VERY CRITICAL OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN 'PEACE PLAN' AND THE PROPOSAL FOR UN TROOPS IN RHODEISA. 'THE UN WILL COME IN TO SUPPORT COLONIALISM AGAINST THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND TO COUNTER-ACT THE DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS FREEDOM. THE UN WOULD THEREBY NOT PLAY A PROGRESSIVE ROLE BUT RATHER A VERY REPUGNANT ROLE.' ACCORDING TO THE PLAN, THE UN IS TO SUPERVISE THE TRUCE. MUGABE EMPHASIZES THAT THE UN THEREBY WOULD SUPPORT THE SALISBURY REGIME'S TROOPS WHICH ARE TO BE UNDER BRITISH COMMAND. ACCORDING TO THE PLAN, A BRITISH COMMISSIONER DURING AN INTERIM PERIOD OF NO MORE THAN SIX MONTHS IS TO TAKE OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COUNTRY. MUGABE IS OF THE OPINION THAT GREAT BRITIAN WILL QUITE SIMPLY JUST TAKE OVER THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SMITH REGIME. 'THEY ASSUME SMITH'S LAWS, HIS STATE OF EMERGENCY, AND HIS EXECUTIVE AGENCIES. THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT WHAT TODAY IS ILLEGAL BECOME LEGAL.' ROBERT MUGABE INTERPRETS THE WORDING OF THE NAGLO-AMERICAN PLAN SO UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STOCKH 04002 01 OF 02 201233Z

THAT IT ON THE ONE HAND BECOMES A BRITISH COLONIAL RULE WITH THE PRESENT SMITH ADMINISTRATION, AND ON THE OTHER HAND THERE WILL BE THE LIBERATION FORCES-- THAT IS THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. IN SUCH A SITUATION, IT IS INEVITABLE THAT THE UN TROOPS WILL COME INTO A STATE OF CONFRONTATION WITH THE FORCES OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, MUGABE SAYS. 'THE UN TROOPS WOULD NOT CONTRIBUTE TO A DECOLONIALIZATION OF RHODESIA BUT RATHER TO A RECOLONIALIZATION. GREAT BRITAIN WOULD THEREBY GET MORE POWER THAN EVERY BEFORE IN OUR COUNTRY. THEY PLAN TO USE THAT POWER TO GET RID OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT.' THE PATRIOTIC FRONT HAS MAINTAINED THAT THE UK MUST BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OUSTING THE SMITH REGIME. SO THEN QHAT SHOULD THE UK DO ACCORDING TO MUGABE? 'THE US IS ONLY TO PLAY A NOMINAL AND CEREMONIAL ROLE DURING THE TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE AND LEAD THE DEVELOPMENT FOR INDEPENDENCE. BUT THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TRANSITION PROCESS MUST BASICALLY BE IN THE HANDS OF THOSE WHO ARE TO FORM TOMORROW'S GOVERNMENT, THAT IS IN OUR HANDS.'

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STOCKH 04002 02 OF 02 201244Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 DHA-05 ACDA-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /109 W
-----038675 201329Z /46

R 200859Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1745
INFO AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 STOCKHOLM 4002

ACCORDING TO THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN, THE RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LAW AND ORDER DURING THE
TRANSITION PERIOD SHOULD BE IN THE HANDS OF A POLICE
FORCE UNDER THE BRITISH COMMISSIONER. BUT MUGABE POINTS
OUT THAT IT WILL BE THE SAME PEOPLE THAT ARE NOW SERVING
IN SMITH'S POLICE FORCES. 'WE CANNOT TRUST THEM AS
GUARDIANS OF LAW AND ORDER JUST BECAUSE THEY TAKE AN
OATH. THEY WILL NOT SUPPORT US, ON THE CONTRARY THEY WILL
CONTINUE TO WORK AGAINST US. WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO
THE UK THAT IT IS OUR FORCES THAT WILL HAVE TO FORM THE
ZIMBABWE NATIONAL ARMY. THAT'S WHAT WE HAVE BEEN FIGHTING
FOR, NOT TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR SMITH'S TROOPS TO KEEP
THE POWER.' IN RECENT YEARS, THE US HAS PUT MORE AND
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STOCKH 04002 02 OF 02 201244Z

MORE EFFORT INTO TRYING TO FIND A SOLUTION FOR THE RHODESIAN

PROBLEM. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE US INTEREST?
'WE HAVE ALSO ASKED OURSELVES THIS QUESTION. WHY
DO WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH STILL ANOTHER COLONIAL POWER RIGHT
NOW? ONE COLONIAL MASTER IS INDEED MORE THAN ENOUGH."
'THE BRITISH FM DAVID OWEN HAS EXPLAINED TO US THAT THE UK
NO LONGER IS THE SAME STRONG COLONIAL POWER IT USED TO BE.
ALONE, THE UK CANNOT ACHIEVE A CHANGE IN RHODESIA. THE
UK IS TOO WEAK, AND THEREFORE HAS TO GET HELP FROM THE US.'
'WE HAVE OPPOSED AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT THE WHOLE TIME, BUT
IN SPITE OF THIS WE NOW SEE HOW THEY MANAGE TO GET IN IN
A VERY SLY MANNER, AND AS A MATTER OF FACT THEY NOW SEEM
TO HAVE TAKEN OVER COMMAND IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.'
'IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT THE BRITISH WANT TO HAVE
AMERICAN SUPPORT TO ENSURE A CONTINUED CAPITALISTIC
SYSTEM IN RHODESIA. THEY ALSO PROPOSE AN ECONOMIC
FUND FOR ZIMBABWE. THAT FUND IS DESIGNED ONLY TO
PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION OF SOCIALISM IN OUR COUNTRY.
WE ARE NOT SATISFIED JUST WITH GETTING THE RIGHT TO VOTE.
WE ALSO WANT A TOTAL DEMOCRATIZATION OF THE SOCIETY
AND OF THE ECONOMIC SYSTEM.' ACCORDING TO MUGABE, THE
AMERICANS ARE AFRAID THAT THE SOVIET UNION WILL HAVE
TOO MUCH INFLUENCE ON THIS MATTER SHOULD THE PATRIOTIC
FRONT WIN. BUT HE POINTS OUT THAT IT WAS THE AMERICAN
INVOLVEMENT WHICH INTRODUCED SUPERPOWER POLICIES ON THE
RHODESIAN SCENE. IT IS THE AMERICANS WHO WISH TO MAKE
AN INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT OUT OF THE PROBLEM. ROBERT
MUGABE IS A VETERAN IN THE BLACK NATIONALISTS' FIGHT IN
RHODESIA. IN 1963 HE FORMED ZANU TOGETHER WITH PASTOR
SITHOLE. THEREAFTER, THEY WERE BOTH IMPRISONED BY SMITH
AND SPENT TEN YEARS IN JAIL. DURING THE LAST YEARS
OF IMPRISONMENT THERE WAS A CONFLICT WITHIN ZANU.
SITHOLE WAS REMOVED AS THE LEADER AND MUGABE TOOK HIS PLACE.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STOCKH 04002 02 OF 02 201244Z

SITHOLE IS TODAY BACK IN RHODESIA AND IS LOOKED UPON AS
THE MODERATE NATIONALIST LEADER WITH WHOM SMITH TRIES TO
COOPERATE. WHAT DOES MUGABE THINK OF HIS FORMER PARTNER?
'SITHOLE HAS BECOME A MARIONETTE. WE HAVE NO PLANS TO
COOPERATE WITH A MAN WHO HAS GONE AS FAR AS HE HAS.'
ON THE OTHER HAND MUGABE DOESN'T EXCLUDE THE IDEA OF
COOPERATION WITH BISHOP ABEL MUZOREWA. 'MUZOREWA IS
TODAY A TOOTHLESS POLITICIAN, BUT IF HE WANTS TO JOIN
US HE IS WELCOME TO DO SO. BUT THEN HE HAS TO JOIN EITHER
ZANU OR ZAPU."
KENNEDY-MINOTT

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, TEXT, PRESS CONFERENCES, PARTY LEADERS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STOCKH04002
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770341-0726
Format: TEL
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770942/aaaabjeb.tel
Line Count: 219
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eb848741-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1202248
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MUGABE INTERVIEW: TOTAL ZANU OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED UN ZIMBABWE FORCE
TAGS: PDEV, RH, US, UK, XT, SW, UNSC, (MUGABE, ROBERT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eb848741-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009